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between ethics based upon the claims of one's fellow-beings as such and ethics based upon the conception of race improvement. *Die deutsche Entwicklungsethik* recalls first the remarkable anticipations of Wilhelm Jordan, and then describes the work of Häckel, von Carneri, and Stärke. *Humanität und Darwinismus* follows the theories of Radenhausen and Büchner. The final chapter, *Das neue Ideal*, is a somewhat overappreciative statement of the work of Friederich Nietzsche.

C. C. CLOSSON.

Die Bevölkerungs-Wissenschaft und Ihre Praktische Bedeutung für die Gegenwart. By HEINZ STARKENBURG. Leipzig: Wilhelm Friedrich, 1895. 8vo., pp. vi+103.

WHILE this work has comparatively little scientific value, it is of interest as a somewhat extreme example of the prevalent tendency to emphasize the problem of the quality or character of population as contrasted with the quantitative problem of population that has been kept in the foreground of economic discussion since the time of Malthus. The question of the quality of population, as modified from generation to generation by economic and social conditions, and, as on the other hand, largely determining social development, has been neglected—sometimes under the assumption that the average quality of the population of a given country may be regarded as a fairly constant factor, and sometimes under the assumption that the whole problem is outside the range of profitable investigation, important perhaps, but insoluble. The contributions to the study of the subject which have been made by such writers as Galton and de Candolle, and which are being offered in increasing number by de Laponge, Ammon, Haycraft, Wallace, Morison and others, are making it evident that there is possible a science of population that will considerably modify sciences so apparently removed as economics and history, and that in much greater degree, will shape the development of the much desired science of sociology.

With these tendencies at work, one might reasonably turn with large anticipations to a work bearing the ambitious title; *die Bevölkerungs-Wissenschaft*. Such anticipations would not be met by the present work. The author has some conception of what a science of population might achieve, but his own contribution consists only in certain provisional suggestions, and for the rest his book is so provincial as to show no sign of the serious work in the same direction that

is being done in Germany and elsewhere, and his practical proposals are too ill-judged to command confidence.

After passing in review the influence exerted upon the growth of population by climate, race, occupation, education, economic conditions, the prevailing family ethics, and the type of family organization, he reaches the negative conclusion that "it is an unprofitable task to express in mathematical form the rate of the increase of population, and that it is entirely illusory to believe that one can draw any conclusions as to the future," from the so-called principle of population, "or rest thereon any practical policy." Absolute and general overpopulation, the author regards as "a picture of phantasy." Local and relative overpopulation—population too great for a given region under the existing economic system—must be relieved by economic progress, and by migration to the comparatively uncultivated parts of the world. Over against the economic danger of overpopulation, the writer sets "the ethnological danger of decrease." "A people which checks its increase, has pronounced its own death sentence; it sacrifices itself for the benefit of its less calculating and cautious neighbors." Similarly, within a given race or community, the propaganda for restricted increase, appealing to the better element of the population, "proclaims a selection of the unfit," and tends toward a deterioration in the average quality of succeeding generations.

The author's practical suggestions favor a radical policy of public encouragement of an increase of population. Among other proposals are the following: Complete recognition of the economic independence of women; removal of legal obstacles to the forming or breaking of marriage; universal, free and equal education for all, without distinction of sex or rank; public establishments for children whose parents are not able to support them; the establishment of public eating halls, laundries, heating and lighting apparatus, etc. Measures such as these would doubtless bring about a struggle for existence intense enough to satisfy the most radical of the ultra selectionists of the Kidd type.

C. C. C.

Die Drohende Physische Entartung der Culturvolker. By W. SCHALLMAYER. Berlin: Heuser's Verlag. Zweite Aufgabe. 8vo. pp. 60.

DR. SCHALLMAYER'S brief essay comprises, (1) An examination of some of the forces of social selection with a view to determining